

October 1956

Volume 35

Number 413

LABOUR ORGANISER

★ CONTENTS ★

Politics in Greenwich

Revenue Can Demand Return

New Lotteries Law

Derby after Jim Thomas

A Membership Secretary's Job

PRICE FIVEPENCE

					
R47659	R47660	R47661	R47662	R47663	R47664

**WITHOUT EFFORT
SAVE**

The fast, easy, London Co-op way! Buy L.C.S. 6d. Saving Stamps every time you shop. Use them for Christmas Shopping—and get 1/- in the £ bonus or have them transferred to your Share Account and earn interest. Get an L.C.S. Stamp Book free today and save the London Co-op way!

**LONDON CO-OPERATIVE
SOCIETY LTD.**

					
R47665	R47666	R47667	R47668	R47669	R47670

					
R47671	R47672	R47673	R47674	R47675	R47676

					
R47677	R47678	R47679	R47680	R47681	R47682

					
R47683	R47684	R47685	R47686	R47687	R47688

					
R47689	R47690	R47691	R47692	R47693	R47694

MONEY—CASH BRASS—TIN

Call it what you like
IT'S ALL

FUNDS!!!

Send for our free fund-raising
samples, only 3d. postage, to:—

THE IDEAL PRINTERS
12 Midland Street, HULL

THE “FUND-RAISING”
SPECIALISTS

FULL UNION SHOP SINCE 1922
EST: 1919

COUNTY PRINTERS

(BLACKBURN) LTD
WEST LoTHIAN

For your
MONEY
RAISING
and
PROPAGANDA
PRINTING

STATIONERY, ENVELOPES, etc.

ESTIMATES FREE

FULL UNION SHOP

Sport and Labour



A great many of its readers
say that they take the Daily
Herald chiefly for the reliable
reports and loyal support it
gives to trade union and Labour policies,
and for its brilliant and unrivalled sports
pages.

Not all Herald readers are so exclusively
devoted to one or two special subjects, and
these find in its up-to-date news reports
and continuous stream of topical features
the modern daily paper they like best.

Order as Your Choice
LABOUR'S

DAILY HERALD

THE LABOUR ORGANISER

EDITOR: A. L. WILLIAMS

PUBLISHED BY THE LABOUR PARTY, TRANSPORT HOUSE, SMITH SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1

VOL. 35. NO. 413

OCTOBER, 1956

PRICE FIVEPENCE

Politics in Greenwich

by A. L. WILLIAMS

'HOW People Vote'* is rather a misleading title for a study of electoral behaviour in one constituency at one General Election. The constituency is Greenwich and the General Election that of 1950.

The fact that the book was published after there had been two further General Elections, in the minds of some reviewers, reduced its value, but I found it the most interesting of the electoral studies which have been published in recent years.

This is not because the statistical material contains any startling revelations. It would appear as if the electors in 1950 in Greenwich acted in much the same way as electors did in 1951 in Bristol North East, or for that matter in any other constituency in recent General Elections.

In reviewing 'Straight Fight', a study of the 1951 General Election in Bristol North East, the *Labour Organiser* said that it 'in the main merely confirms what we all knew—e.g. the Labour Party draws its main support from the working class and the Conservative Party from the middle class!' The statistical tables in the present volume do no more.

The special value of this book lies in its background description of Greenwich as a real community of human beings, with a long political tradition. Because of this the Greenwich electors become something more than percentages in a statistical table, and 1950 is treated as only one of numerous elections that have been fought in the constituency.

In the earlier phases of its political history Greenwich was a Radical stronghold, but an

abrupt change took place after 1872 and, until 1945, it had an almost unbroken record of Conservative representation. In the four post-war elections it has returned a Labour candidate.

The reasons given for Greenwich's switch from Liberalism to Toryism will be of interest to election agents. The authors believe that the introduction of the secret ballot in 1872 (and the new system was first tried in Greenwich) was an important factor in bringing about this change in political representation.

Tory Bribes

Though the Ballot Act was meant to prevent bribery, in some respects the secret ballot increased its possibilities. The workingman elector more easily could ignore the pressure of his Radical workmates and take Tory bribes, and there is little doubt that in Greenwich many did.

Another more permanent factor was the professional attention the Tories gave to the register of electors.

Even in those days the Tories had more money than their opponents and were able to obtain a much more efficient registration of their supporters by energetic canvassing than were the Liberals. This was of tremendous importance, because though the Reform Act of 1867 had doubled the Greenwich electorate there had been no improvement in the procedure of registration, and the main burden fell upon the political parties themselves.

Among other factors were the divisions in the Liberal ranks, which became deeper as the working class movement grew stronger.

Finally, this movement achieved its political independence from the Liberals, and the establishment of a Labour Party in Greenwich marked the end of the Liberal Party as a political force of any consequence.

The authors examine the Conservative and Labour constituency organisations at the time of the 1950 General Election and point to the differences between them. The class character of the members of the two parties is very similar to the class character of the Tory and Labour voters.

The Labour Party appears as a more democratic organisation and its members play a more active part in its affairs, or at least they did in 1950, though in both parties the active members form a small percentage of the total membership.

It is pleasing to learn that the Conservatives have their troubles with a militant wing whose activities, in the opinion of more orthodox members, are politically embarrassing.

The Greenwich Tory militants, looking for opportunities to smite the Labour Party, discovered that six Labour councillors were living in requisitioned houses and flats at lower rents than normally charged for such property. Efforts were made to turn this discovery into a great housing scandal, but not all Conservatives approved of the tactics of the militants.

Indeed, the chairman of the Conservative association, a councillor of many years' standing, publicly pointed out that the six councillors in question had all been bombed out of their original homes and that they paid rent on the principle, applying to all council tenants, that they should not suffer financially from their misfortune, a principle approved by the whole council. He further pointed out that not all of them had been councillors when they became council tenants.

Election Stunt

During the General Election campaign another attempt was made to exploit this question and 20,000 copies of a special leaflet were distributed.

Another stunt of the same kind was the publication of a leaflet carrying the slogan, 'Reeves and Crypto-Communism or Gilbey and Conservatism', containing passages from speeches by Mr. Joe Reeves, the Labour candidate, to create the impression that he was favourable to Communism.

The Conservative chairman disapproved of this stunt also, and showed his disapproval quite decisively. One of the main committee

rooms was on his business premises and the morning after the leaflet was distributed all the Tory posters were taken down from the chairman's windows and the committee room was closed, though it reopened a few days later.

The authors' description of the manner in which the Tory election machine worked should do something to remove the impression, created by good publicity, that Tory constituency organisation is 100 per cent efficient. Certainly it was not in Greenwich in 1950, and reading the section of this book devoted to the campaign one reaches the conclusion that, allowing for differences of background and methods, the Labour campaign was more effective than that of the Tories.

Accidents Happened

In Greenwich, as in most constituencies at General Elections, accidents happened to all parties . . . a Labour nomination paper was spoiled because one of the signatories was a peer of the realm; there was an error on the back of the Tory election address (and a thousand or two were printed before it was discovered) and this caused some delay in distribution; two days before polling day the Liberals received 500 posters, and it was only after they had been displayed throughout the constituency that it was discovered that they were advertising a Liberal candidate in another constituency.

One interesting point of information conned from one of the many tables in the book, is about the religious beliefs of the electors. Of the Church of England members, 59 per cent voted Labour, 36 per cent Conservative and 5 per cent Liberal, and 44 per cent of the Nonconformists voted Labour, 44 per cent Conservative and only 12 per cent Liberal.

No less than 70 per cent of the Roman Catholics voted Labour, as against 27 per cent who voted Conservative, and 3 per cent who voted Liberal. Also, Labour gained 70 per cent of the votes of those who claimed no religion, the Conservatives 22 per cent, and the Liberals 8 per cent.

Twenty-five shillings is a big price to pay for a book of this kind, but those who are interested in learning how our electoral system works, even if they are not prepared to buy the book themselves, can see that it is in their local library.

** How People Vote*, by Mark Benney. A. P. Gray and R. H. Pear (Routledge and Kegan Paul, 25s. net).

REVENUE CAN DEMAND RETURN

by R. Faulding

THE Finance Act 1956, which received Royal Assent on 2nd August, 1956, imposes a new duty on secretaries and lays down penalties for non-compliance.

Section 20 makes it obligatory for the secretary of any organisation to supply the Inland Revenue, if so requested, with details of payments made for services rendered.

Payments in cash and in kind to employees are not affected by this section but these, of course, are required to be notified to the Inland Revenue under the P.A.Y.E. scheme.

The Royal Commission on the Taxation of Profits and Income reported that the Inland Revenue were unable to require such returns and instanced the B.B.C. as an organisation which declined to give information.

The recommendation of the Royal Commission is now implemented and further power is given to the Inland Revenue in their drive against tax evasion. While secretaries will not welcome this extra responsibility and attendant penalties, they will appreciate the need to seek out those persons who do not pay their tax liabilities in full.

The relevant paragraphs of the Act are set out at the end of this article and from these the exact requirements of the law can be seen.

The Inland Revenue will require the necessary return to be made and delivered by the person who is, or performs the duties of secretary. If he fails to make a true and correct return within the time laid down by

the notice served on him, he will be liable to a penalty of £50 plus a further penalty of £50 a day after judgment has been given against him for each day during which the failure continues.

The return will be required to give such details as specified in the notice from the Inland Revenue, and will include:

- (1) the name of each person involved;
- (2) the amount of the payment and particulars as to the services rendered for which payment was made;
- (3) the period over which the services were rendered;
- (4) the business name and any business or home address of the person to whom payment was made.

Particulars are not required of payments made before the 6th April, 1956, but in the future the Inland Revenue can demand particulars of payments made during an income tax year ending not more than three years before the service of notice. Thus details of payments made on the 6th April, 1956, are liable to be declared up to the 5th April, 1960.

Payments to which this Section of the Act applies includes payments in cash or in kind in respect of services rendered, commissions of any kind, payments of expenses incurred in connection with the rendering of services and payments made in respect of any copyright.

Payments which are not to be included in a return are those from which income tax is deductible (e.g. payments to employees), and payments to any one person where the total of the payments to that person do not exceed £15.

Finance Act 1956, Section 20

(2) Every body of persons carrying on any activity which does not constitute a trade or business shall, if required to do so by notice from the surveyor, make and deliver to the surveyor a return of all payments of a kind specified in the notice made during a period

so specified, being—

- (a) payments made in the course of carrying on the activity, or such part of the activity as may be specified in the notice, for services rendered by persons not employed by the said body of persons, or

(b) periodical or lump sum payments made in respect of any copyright.

(3) A return required under either of the foregoing subsections shall, if the trade or business or other activity is carried on by an unincorporated body of persons, be made and delivered by the person who is or performs the duties of secretary of the body, and the notice shall be framed accordingly.

(4) A return under the foregoing provisions of this section shall give the name of the person to whom each payment was made, the amount of the payment and such other particulars (including particulars as to the services or rights in respect of which the payment was made, the period over which any services were rendered and any business name and any business or home address of the person to whom payment was made) as may be specified in the notice.

(5) No person shall be required under the foregoing provisions of this section to include in a return—

- (a) particulars of any payment from which income tax is deductible, or
- (b) particulars of payments made to any one person where the total of the payments to that person which would otherwise fall to be included in the return does not exceed fifteen pounds, or
- (c) particulars of any payment made in a

year of assessment ending more than three years before the service of the notice requiring him to make the return.

(6) A person who fails to deliver, within the time limited in any notice served on him under this section, a true and correct return which he is required by the notice to deliver shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds and, after judgment has been given for that penalty, to a further penalty of the like amount for every day during which the failure continues.

(7) In this section—

- (a) references to payments for services include references to payments in the nature of commission of any kind and references to payments in respect of expenses incurred in connection with the rendering of services, and
- (b) references to the making of payments include references to the giving of any valuable consideration; and the requirement imposed by subsection (4) of this section to state the amount of a payment shall, in relation to any consideration given otherwise than in the form of money, be construed as a requirement to give particulars of the consideration.

(8) This section shall apply to payments made on or after the sixth day of April nineteen hundred and fifty-six.

Eastry canvasses 'doubtfuls'

EASTRY is a typical Kentish village, situated some ten miles from Dover, and it is truly rural.

The men of Eastry take their living from the land in the truest sense, the majority are agricultural workers, with a few coal miners and brick-makers, completing the pattern.

There is a thriving local party in this village with the proud boast of 110 members and a good system of voluntary collectors. The Party is well blessed by good officers.

Take a glance at them. The chairman, Ron Fuller, a coal miner, who says little but is well worth listening to. The secretary, 26 years' old Jim Piper, employed at the local waterworks, brings to this office all the energy and enthusiasm of youth. His mother, Mrs. Piper, holds very ably the position of treasurer.

Between them they know every elector in the village. The party's marked register is

a glad sight, and so is the single promise cards, neatly tabulated in street order, coined from the unpopular alphabetical register. All this was known to Dick Knowles, the Dover constituency agent, who, nevertheless, still urged the local comrades to do something about the 'Doubtfuls' canvassed time and time again without success.

Dick Knowles decided to assist in the best possible way. So there we stood one chilly evening armed with membership forms, Town and Country Post, and the necessary cards already prepared. Ron Fuller, Jim Piper, his father, Ted Piper, a male nurse, Wilf Hawker, a Co-op employee from Dover, Arthur Mullett, from Dover, and Bill Harvey, of Eastry, both miners, together with the agent and last, but not least, the prospective Parliamentary candidate, Jack Lee, a Kentish fruit farmer.

(Continued on page 194)

Back to the Street Corner?

A GREAT many moans go up these days about even the apathy of loyal Party members and we hear the old parrot cry that we should get back to the street corners, quite forgetting that the poor speaker has to compete with the noisy buses and the braying radio sets or a jet screaming through the sky.

People now rush home to the TV set and, apart from gangs of Teddy boys, street corner loiterers are no more. In the South even the pubs are empty of all but the few regulars.

Average attendance at a ward meeting may be three or four earnest members, rarely more. Canvass figures reveal the fact that there are fewer voters from the meaner streets and more TV aerials than anywhere else.

Every single voluntary organisation in the country, from the Brownies to the British Legion, is in a state of doldrums and doesn't know how to cope with the dearth of active members.

In the Labour Party, most of the active workers are also staying at home around the 'telly', whilst the older ones without it are laid low with thrombosis and only seem ready to advocate a return to the 'good old days', which they themselves know were hungry and cold days, when often only the spirit kept them alive.

A few of the hardier type attend a ward meeting, which is nothing but business and bickering, with corns on the bottom from a hard school bench and a draught down the neck from unheated schoolrooms. How can we hope to compete with the TV?

In a moment one may be whisked comfortably to a wedding in Monaco, unseen, comfortable and collarless. Or hear a good argument between Professor Bronowski and Walter Elliot, still wearing one's oldest pinny, coffee steaming at the ready.

One may tour Fonnmon Castle with the Jones's, or criticise a film star's curtains in Mayfair or Chelsea, but it opens up great new vistas for the mind and imagination, be it intellectual or even the broadest type of entertainment.

Working class families have never been

able to afford a visit to the theatre except but rarely. They have not seen a Prom or visited Paris,; now they can do all these things in comfort, with their loved ones, and who shall deny them?

It is no use our grousing or of attempting to ridicule those who look in at 'glass faces', we must take it in our stride and attempt to put something in its place, but how? That is the sixty dollar question.

Would it be beyond our means to hire films and equipment? I think not, but what about the type of films? What we need is something people cannot see on TV, and there comes the rub, for most things are possible.

I would suggest an International Library of Films, travelogues and documentaries upon how people live and work in other countries. We know nothing about Poland, Hungary, Canada or Australia, or very little, less still about China, Japan or Peru except from momentary news reels. Could we not have films which take us right into the homes of the people and which tell us without fear or favour about their hopes and fears and way of life.

We should have a team of people under the direction of someone like Aidan Crawley, capable of shooting exciting and imaginative films in this country and elsewhere. UNICEF can do it, why not the Socialist Party with international co-operation. The Co-ops have the right idea, why not us?

Let us take our meetings out of schools and into something more comfortable when we are not showing our films. Let us serve refreshments more in our Labour H.Q.'s, and above all let us brighten them.

Too often the only decoration is a fly-blown picture of Keir Hardie hanging askew on a mildewed wall. Of course people prefer to stay at home with the 'telly'! Wouldn't you?

ROMA WALDEGRAVE

Photograph Your Maps

YOUR correspondent V. G. Marshall would have us go to a great deal of trouble map making, sur-

rounded by enormous bottles of inks, pens, flags and cow gum, to say nothing of frayed tempers, ruining the best table and irritating the wife.

All he has to do is to take the original map to a good local photographer with the salient points already inked in, and get the map photographed. He can then have as many copies as he likes for colouring.

If he has a small street map and requires a wall map, the photographer will 'blow' it up for him to the required size and produce any number of copies. The price will be little more than it takes to buy a few road maps and he will have a map for every ward into the bargain.

He can also trace a small road map on to a duplicating stencil, or again have it photostatted, and can run off as many as two thousand. Gestetner and Roneo will provide an almost permanent stencil for just over a pound.

But first a word of warning: don't infringe a copyright; get permission first before embarking on wholesale map printing. The Ordnance Survey Office, Chessington, Surrey, will be most helpful in advising agents who do not emulate Nelson.

GWYNNE FOSTER

Use a Bigger Scale

TWO or three points arise from V. G. Marshall's article on maps in Party work.

May I suggest that for really useful work the 25,000 plan Ordnance Survey (roughly $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches to the mile) is more useful than the 1 inch. The details can be so much more accurate.

Secondly, if a map of this size is mounted on the wall of the Party Office and signal pins are used for the various items which Mr. Marshall writes about then most of the work for which he needs four maps can be covered on one.

Thirdly, as far as boroughs or thickly populated areas are concerned then nothing smaller than a 6 inch O.S. is likely to be useful.

What I have done is to have a $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. O.S. for the whole constituency on the wall, together with two 6 inch O.S. of the two boroughs (Deal and Dover) and a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of the whole county. On the $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch are the details of parties, wards boundaries,

borough parties (purple pins), wards (blue), L.L.P.s in one r.d. (red) and in the other (green), Women's Sections (black), with lapsed parties with a differently shaped pin. On the 6 inch maps for the two boroughs are the ward details (boundaries) (polling districts) (polling places).

The question of halls and other sites I find better dealt with by normal card index methods, and as for timing a car from A to B, the problem is whose car and who is driving. We have two or three drivers who will do a 20 mile journey in 30 minutes, but I always allow 40 minutes for meetings.

But it is refreshing to know that we are using maps more and Mr. Marshall's complicated method probably suits his locality better than mine.

May I say that the Tonbridge by-election seemed to have more maps available than are usual in a campaign, and they were available right from the start.

RICHARD KNOWLES

New Training Course

EACH of the seven students who completed the first three months' full-time training course for agents have now received appointments in various parts of the country.

A second three months' course is to start in October and seven students have been enrolled.

The students are Mr. C. T. Bell (Royston), Mr. D. J. Smith (Merthyr Tydfil), Mr. J. Shorrocks (Redruth), Mr. E. T. Mawdsley (Witham), Mr. H. Nairn (North Walsham), Mr. P. Allison (Shotts), Mr. J. Rafferty (Chopwell).

Four of them hold the Diploma of the Postal Study Course, and all have had a long membership of the Labour Party and considerable organising experience.

Miss O'Reilly

Miss K. O'Reilly retired at the end of September after more than 30 years' service on the clerical staff of the National Agent's Department at Transport House.

During this long period Miss O'Reilly has served under four National Agents, Mr. Egerton Wake, Lord Shepherd, Mr. R. T. Windle, and the present, National Agent, Mr. A. L. Williams.

USE THAT LOCAL NEWSPAPER !

by ALAN WILLIAMS

A LARGE number of local newspapers are under Tory control. They are often violently anti-socialist. Their weekly columns are filled with a dreary pudding, compounded of births, marriages and deaths with a few spicy currants of police court news.

Yet for years these local papers have maintained their steady circulation. They go, week after week, into five thousand or more homes. The editors obviously know what their readers want. A clever, scintillating publication would be a 'flop'. That dull local paper feeds the steady interest in parochial affairs. It's the local Debrett and Court Circular combined with the local Police Gazette.

Provides Platform

Don't despise it! In spite of its strong Tory leanings it can give a platform for party activities and ideas. It can be used to recruit new members and as a vehicle for propaganda — provided the propaganda is spelled with a small 'p'.

The editor of your local paper can be touched in his weakest spot. He is always prepared to publish local news; and as his own circulation manager he is always interested in gaining new channels of distribution by interesting a wider circle of readers. He may be a fine crusted Tory, but his news sense is not blunted by his political leanings.

Don't begin by sending the editor a thousand word write-up of your last meeting. If it is the first time you have approached the local paper, send a brief account of about 200 words. Give the names of the principal speakers, the chairman, and a simple condensed account of the proceedings.

You can send with your report a brief covering letter to the editor saying that your party is promoting a number of meetings, and in view of the local interest they have aroused he might care to have a brief report for his next issue.

When the editor has published your reports for a few weeks you can begin to

extend your reports a little. But save your lengthy reports for the more important occasion—a public meeting, a well-known speaker, etc.

Study the way your paper is written. Don't try to write a fine literary report. Neither the editor nor the readers are likely to be attracted by epigrams or the finer shafts of wit. Don't despise 'journalese'—it is the language of the common denominator. Keep your sentences short. Get the punch of your story in the first paragraph.

Don't give up trying if your first report is not published. The paper may have been 'made-up' by the time it reached the editor, or he may have a surfeit of local news. Many local papers issued on Fridays have the bulk of their material ready by Wednesday. Send in four or five reports before you count your efforts a failure.

Don't include in your report the 'red hot gospel of Socialism'. The editor won't look at it, and it's bad propaganda anyway. The majority of the readers of the local press have deep-rooted prejudices about Socialism. Strong arguments only tend to inflame these prejudices. Make your reports temperate; in the local press you can gain more by a grain of quiet constructive statement than by a spate of fiery declamation.

Local Needs

If your local party is studying local needs and conditions, then you will have material which has first-rate news value. Your town needs a day nursery, etc.—the tory council is jogging along at a snail's pace. In exposing neglect and inefficiency you have material which few editors will ignore.

You must not be pained and surprised if the paper which has accepted your reports suddenly utters a loud anti-socialist counterblast in its editorial columns. It is merely the editor's Tory conscience trying to restore the political balance of his paper.

Don't answer back in your next report—you cannot expect a newspaper to print criticism of its editorial policy in its news columns. If you must reply, get one of your members to write a letter in a personal capacity. After all, an attack is a tribute to your political vitality.

THE Small Lotteries and Gaming Act came into operation on the 5th August, 1956. It is now possible for constituency and local Labour Parties to organise draws, competitions, etc., and to run whist drives, without fear of police action, provided they comply with the provisions of the Act.

The purpose of the Act is to allow small lotteries to be run for charitable and other purposes, but lotteries must not be run for private gain or for the purposes of any commercial undertaking.

By its simple provisions, the Act will do much to keep money-raising ventures within reasonable limits, and within those limits it should be possible to meet the needs of the average political party.

Bill Amended

As a number of alterations and amendments have been made to the original Bill introduced by a Private Member (Mr. E. Davies, M.P.) it will be as well to outline the provisions of the Act and to relate them directly to the Labour Party.

Most parties undertake some kind of money-raising activity, and some of these ventures now come within the scope of the Act. The kind of lotteries run, and the turnover involved, vary considerably. For those parties which derive considerable income from weekly football and similar competitions it will be necessary to check their present schemes and to see how they comply with the requirements of the Act.

Parties which run one or two draws or competitions during the course of a year, will find no difficulty whatsoever in keeping within the law.

Each party must appoint a promoter. This promoter must be a member of the party concerned, and must be authorised in writing, by the General Committee—which is the governing body—and the appointment recorded in the minutes.

No remuneration can be paid to a promoter or to any person employed by him who carries on a betting business or is engaged in such a business. This effectively stops bookmakers from entering into the field.

The prizes are limited and no one prize can exceed £100 in amount or value. The maximum amount to be allocated in prizes

NEW LOT Poses

Small lotteries are now made possible by the provisions of the new Act. Local parties will require a promoter for C

must not exceed one half of the total proceeds.

As the total value of the tickets sold must not exceed £750, the total prize money, in such a case, must not be more than £375. It would be possible, therefore, to give quite a number of attractive prizes such as one of £100, one of £75, two of £50, three of £25, and five of £5.

The charge for tickets must be the same and in no case exceed one shilling. The price must be stated on the ticket. This means that no bonus tickets can be given as an inducement, nor can there be sales where the price is reduced when a number of tickets are bought together.

The sale of tickets is no longer restricted to members, but provision is made for no tickets to be sold by or to persons under 16 years of age.

No Return

No person, having purchased a ticket, can demand a return of the money paid, and it is not possible to participate in the draw except on payment to the promoter of the whole cost of the ticket.

A restriction is also placed on the expenses incurred in running the lottery. This is limited to the actual expenses incurred or to ten per cent of the whole proceeds, *whichever is the less*.

No prize money or expenses can be guaranteed by the party except through the proceeds of the lottery. The whole proceeds of the lottery, after deducting expenses and

RIES LAW

estions

**Len Sims here explains the
nts to questions to which
which have been submitted
inion.**

prizes must be devoted to the purposes of the party.

In order to define the period within which the lottery is operating it is laid down that this will be from the date on which the tickets are first available for sale and continue until the day on which they are last available whether or not tickets are sold on that day.

Some parties run a number of small competitions and it may be that the sale of tickets overlap. In this case, the total value of the tickets sold in all these lotteries, taken together, must not exceed £750.

Through Post

In the past, it was illegal to send tickets through the post or to give notice of these lotteries. The new Act permits members of the party to receive tickets through the post. It is also possible to exhibit a notice regarding the lottery on the premises of the society and to make a distribution of such notices to members. The only other method permitted is for such notices to be printed on the ticket.

Each ticket or notice regarding the lottery must specify the name of the party, the name and address of the promoter, and give the dates on which the prize winners or the event will be determined.

There is a provision in the Act that safeguards the promoter when the lottery he is running fails. It is a defence for any person charged with contravening the law in respect of expenses and prize money if he can prove

that the lottery fell short of the sum reasonably estimated and that the funds of the party had to be used to meet the expenses incurred and to fulfil the undertaking regarding prizes.

In order to participate in running lotteries it is necessary for a party to register with the local authority in whose area the office is situated. In the case of constituency parties it would be in the local authority where the party office is situated or, if no office was available, it would be best to use the address of the constituency party secretary.

Tell Purpose

The application must specify the purpose for which the party is established and conducted—in this case to promote the interests of the Labour Party and to return candidates to Parliament and to the local authority.

The registration fee is £1, payable on application, and while the registration continues, £1 on the 1st January of each year.

Having registered the party with the local authority, it then becomes the duty of the promoter to make a return in respect of each lottery. This must be done not later than the end of the third month after the month in which the prize winners are ascertained.

The return to be submitted to the local authority must show:

- (a) *The whole proceeds of the lottery;*
- (b) *The sum appropriated out of those proceeds on account of expenses and prizes;*
- (c) *The particular purpose or purposes, and the amount, to which the proceeds were applied; and*
- (d) *The dates between which the tickets were sold.*

The return must be certified by two other members of the party who are of full age and who have been appointed, in writing, by the General Committee.

It is also provided that the local authority shall keep the return at their offices for at least one year, and during that period any person can inspect the return free of charge.

Failure to submit a return or to give false or misleading information can result in a fine of not more than £20. Any person convicted of an offence in connection with the running of a lottery can result in the local authority revoking the registration. Where a local authority does refuse to register or revokes the registration, there is the right to appeal.

The Act is quite clear when taken in

relation to the occasional lottery, and careful compliance with its requirements means that parties should encounter little or no difficulty. Where, however, lotteries are run on a weekly basis, or where any overlapping of lotteries can take place, great care must be exercised.

One of the problems that faces parties running weekly competitions arises from administration. As it is usual for more than one set of tickets to be issued to sellers at a time, there is a possibility that the tickets can be on sale to the general public in advance of the week in which the result is decided.

The Question

This poses the question—should the tickets sold over the period be classified as one lottery, and therefore the total proceeds and the prize money be limited accordingly? This would appear to be the case.

There is also the question as to whether it is possible to offer specific money prizes without some qualification to say that the amount stated on the ticket will be paid *provided the requisite number of tickets are sold*. If the sales fall short of the estimated total, the prize money should be reduced to the 50 per cent of the proceeds in order to conform with the requirements of the Act.

Some weekly tickets that are so'd cover more than one competition. If, for instance, one of the competitions was weekly and the other daily, it could be argued that, as the daily competition completed itself on the day which the result was decided, the other competition should be another lottery.

Then there is the position where wards run small weekly competitions among members in order to build up funds or to provide money for a children's party. In addition to this they co-operate with their constituency party in running a lottery. Sometimes it is the same person who acts as promoter and the same machinery is used for distribution and sale.

In this case it would appear necessary for the ward to register as a society with its own promoter, etc., and for the constituency party to do the same. If local parties operate and not wards, then the registrations would have to be within their respective local authorities.

Another problem is in respect of parties who run a small weekly lottery, but whose main efforts are concentrated on running one or two large draws during the year. This will mean that the tickets for both of

the party's lotteries will be on sale at given periods of the year.

These are but few of the problems that are likely to arise. It is obvious, therefore, that immediately a party goes away from the single lottery into anything that approaches a series, complications can arise.

So much doubt exists on how to run weekly competitions and yet comply with the law, that the opinion of Counsel must be sought and some are already engaged in giving very careful consideration to the provisions of the Act.

The promotion of whist drives and similar gaming parties also comes within the scope of this Act. It covers games of chance or games of skill and chance combined. The money raised by such gaming shall be for purposes other than private gain. Gaming parties must not be held on licensed premises. The expenses permitted must not exceed the reasonable cost of the facilities provided for the game.

Entrance Fee

A payment, whether by way of entrance fee or stake or otherwise shall not exceed 5s. in respect of all games played. Not more than one distribution of prizes or awards is permitted, and the total value of such prizes and awards shall not exceed £20.

The profit, after deducting lawful expenses and prizes, must be applied for the purposes of the party.

Where more than one entertainment is run on the same day by the same promoter, each entertainment must be treated separately, except where such entertainment forms part of a series. Where the entertainment does form part of a series the maximum for prizes is raised from £20 to £100.

Situation Vacant

ROCHESTER AND CHATHAM C.L.P. invite applications for the post of full-time Secretary-Agent. Salary and conditions in accordance with National Agreement. Full-time clerical assistance and well-equipped office available. Application forms can be obtained from Councillor J. Green, Henderson House, 32 New Road, Rochester, Kent, to whom they should be returned not later than 27th October, 1956.

Alderman Arthur Sturgess tells how Derby Labour Party has prospered despite the desertion of two of its earlier Members of Parliament.

Derby after Jim Thomas

THE political Labour movement in Derby goes back to 1900 and for 56 years it has played an important part both in Parliamentary and local government affairs.

A Labour Representation Committee was formed in 1900 and in the same year Richard Bell, the National Treasurer of the L.R.C. and General Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants (later N.U.R.) won a seat in Parliament and four members were elected to the town council.

Liberal Tradition

Derby had a Liberal tradition and was a double member constituency. Liberals such as Samuel Plimsol, Sir William Harcourt and a local worthy named Thomas Roe (after Lord Roe) had held the seats for many years.

Bell retained the seat in the 1906 election but when the Labour Party was formed independently of all other parties in 1910, Bell deflected and we were called upon to select another candidate.

During the 1906 election, J. H. Thomas, then an engine driver, but on the panel of candidates of the A.S.R.S. and who had had some valuable experience as a member of the Swindon Town Council, visited Derby and spoke during the campaign.

He took the electorate by storm and there is no doubt he helped considerably Bell's return. It was therefore no surprise that 'J.H.T.' was adopted at the 1910 election and was elected, taking second place to the Liberal candidate. In the 1918 election Thomas headed the poll.

In May 1919, the Derby Labour Party decided to contest both seats at the next General Election and Councillor Raynes, who was now secretary and agent of the party, was selected as the second Labour candidate. When the 1922 Parliament dissolved the two candidates were submitted to the adoption meeting. J. H. Thomas objected to two Labour candidates and threatened to leave for a South Wales constituency.

The party was adamant and finally 'J.H.T.'

gave way and our two candidates fought the election. 'J.H.T.' headed the poll, with a Liberal second, and although Raynes was not elected he no doubt polled the solid Labour vote and 'J.H.T.' split votes with the Liberals.

At the 1923 election both of our candidates were successful and we boasted of having full Labour representation in Parliament. The success was short-lived for in the 1924 election Raynes lost his seat to the Conservatives, 'J.H.T.' headed the poll and Raynes came within 253 votes of the Conservative.

In 1929 Thomas and Raynes were again successful, well beating two Conservatives. 'J.H.T.' secured 2,431 split votes with the Liberal, who was at the bottom of the poll.

1931 brought the split in the Labour Movement and 'J.H.T.' joined the Coalition with Ramsay MacDonald. The General Election followed and we had the spectacle of 'J.H.T.' running as a 'National' candidate with a Conservative. We ran Raynes and Walter Hall, a member of the N.U.R. 'J.H.T.' headed the poll, the Conservative was second, and we were well beaten.

The local party stood firm, although a few railwaymen went 'National' and three members of the town council, one who had acted as Agent while Raynes was in Parliament, deflected. Raynes resigned as Parliamentary candidate, and again became secretary and agent of the party.

Thomas Second

In 1935 we ran Hind and Barnes, but this time the Tory headed the poll, with 'J.H.T.' second. We were again well defeated, but not downhearted, as the organisation was in good form again.

In 1936 'J.H.T.' resigned from Parliament following the budget leakage and so ended a remarkable career. Many sympathised with him in his unfortunate end. He had proved himself an able leader in the Trade Union movement, and had given good service to the railwaymen in particular and to the Borough of Derby.

We adopted Philip Noel-Baker for the by-

election and he won the seat with a comfortable majority against a National Labour candidate. Our organisation, now under Councillor Russell, was in excellent fighting order and in 1945 we put two candidates up, Noel-Baker and Clifford Wilcock and we won by a two to one majority. Before the 1950 General Election Derby was divided into two constituencies, Noel-Baker being selected for South and Clifford Wilcock for North. Further changes took place before the last election, an area outside of the town being attached to each constituency, but our two members were again returned.

Raynes was our first Labour member of the town council. He was elected in a by-election in October 1911. Frank Porter (elected in 1913) was our first Labour member on the board of guardians.

1914 War

When the war broke out in 1914, we had five members on the town council and two on the board of guardians. In March 1919 we won two by-elections, and in the November elections the same year, we almost swept the board, only one Tory securing election. By then we had 13 members on the council and seven on the guardians.

By 1928 we had 23 members on the guardians and 35 on the council, where we took control. In the 1931 crisis we lost 14 seats and three the following year, and so lost control of the council. By then the guardians' functions had been taken over by the town council. In 1934 we again took control with 33 seats and have kept our majority to the present time.

In the earlier years Labour struggled with the opposition for fair representation according to our growing strength: we demanded a Labour Mayor, Aldermen and fair representation on council committees. We were told that we had not members who were efficient to take over chairmanships of committees and our reply when we came into control, was to take over all chairmanships and our fair percentage of seats on committees.

Labour Mayor

Raynes became our first Labour Mayor and our first Alderman.

Although we have had four agents of the local party since its formation, two stand out for mention. Alderman Raynes, who is still the president of the party, and Alderman Russell, who is our present agent, taking office in 1936.

The writer of these notes is the only member of the present Executive Committee who has served continuously on that committee since 1918 and is the vice-president of the party to-day.

(Continued from page 186)

complete with loud-speaker equipment.

We introduced Jack, and he made a vigorous onslaught on the Tory Government while we commenced our onslaught 'on the knocker'. It's hard work this selective canvassing—not for us the usual question of 'For and Against'? but arguing back and forth, meeting each fresh situation as demanded, sometimes with a joke, and sometimes with long serious discussion. You could spend up to 20 minutes on one doorstep before being able to truthfully record 'For' or 'Against'.

We finished about 9 p.m., tired but happy after making over 130 calls. And, the tally, all 'Doubtfuls' cleared on two housing estates and 23 new members enrolled.

Not a very productive evening's work you may say, but this type of canvassing is somewhat different to the usual run, but we feel it can pay good dividends in a marginal seat where good canvass records already exist.

New Edition

CONDUCT OF PARLIAMETARY ELECTIONS

(Fourth Edition)

Price 7/- post free

This new edition has been extensively revised following the 1950 and 1951 General Elections. It is up-to-date, including recent changes in R.P. Regulations, the Electoral Registers Act, 1953, etc.

THE LABOUR PARTY, TRANSPORT HOUSE
SMITH SQUARE - - - S.W.1

Adopting Standing Orders

A NUMBER of references have been made, in this series of articles on procedure, to Standing Orders.

It might, therefore, be helpful to concentrate this article entirely to the importance of all organisations adopting Standing Orders which lay down the rules by which their meetings shall be conducted.

It is often said that in the absence of Standing Orders meetings should be guided by accepted practice or general custom.

In a Labour Party meeting there are sure to be a number of strong-minded people with decided views on procedure. If they happen to differ on this then as we all know to our sorrow the best part of the meeting can be taken up by argument on technicalities.

A code of rules which provide complete Standing Orders not only avoids unnecessary argument but lends a note of precision to our work which leads to efficient management.

Every member of a party should be supplied with a copy of the organisation's Standing Orders as well as rules; there is then no excuse for bad conduct on behalf of officers or members.

Every chairman should preside with a copy of both rules and Standing Orders at his right hand. It is never wise to rely on memory. If trouble arises on a matter of procedure nothing can be more authoritative than the reading of the appropriate Standing Order by the chairman.



In an earlier article reference was made to the suspension of Standing Orders. Repetition on this point may not be amiss.

While it is unwise to interfere with the normal application of Standing Orders there are times when it is in the best interests of a meeting that Standing Orders should be suspended to deal with an emergency situation.

It is imperative, however, that a chairman does not let suspension of Standing Orders become a habit. He must refuse to accept the motion for suspension unless it is related to a matter of outstanding importance or of great urgency.

Again it is worth while repeating that the chairman must insist on the mover clearly

indicating which Standing Order he requires to be suspended and it must also be borne in mind that the motion to suspend requires at least a two-thirds majority of those present at the meeting.

Standing Orders vary in their content but the following model would serve a constituency or local party in good stead. The model could be simplified to meet the requirements of a ward, women's or youth section:

All, or any number, of the following paragraphs may be made up with variations or additions if desired into a set of suitable Standing Orders for any party.



(1) MEETINGS

Meetings of the General Committee shall commence at p.m. If within half an hour of the appointed time a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be dissolved, always provided that in special circumstances a less number than the quorum may transact business subject to the ratification of the proceedings by the next full meeting.

(2) QUORUM

The quorum for the Executive Committee shall be (7).

The quorum for the General Committee shall be (12).

(3) ROLL OF MEMBERS

A roll of the members present shall be taken at (9 p.m.) or thereabouts.

(4) ORDER OF BUSINESS

The usual order of business at an ordinary meeting shall be:

- (a) Minutes of last meeting to be read, confirmed and signed by the chairman.
- (b) Questions arising from minutes.
- (c) Introduction of new delegates.
- (d) Chairman's remarks on special matters or events requiring comment.
- (e) Correspondence.
- (f) Executive, finance, sub-committee and other reports.
- (g) Reception of deputations.
- (h) Resolutions.
- (i) General Business.
- (j) Other business.

(A statement of the finances of the party shall be presented at every ordinary meeting.)

(5) NOTICE OF MOTION

All original motions for the agenda shall be handed to the secretary in writing not less

than (14) days before the meeting, unless on matters of urgency accepted by the majority as such.

(6) AMENDMENTS

Amendments to an original motion shall be handed to the secretary in writing.

(7) MOTION TO RESCIND RESOLUTION

Any motion to rescind any previous resolution passed by the party shall be handed in written form to the secretary not later than 14 days before the date of the next meeting, such notice to be included in the agenda sent to party delegates.

(8) RESOLUTION TO BE MOVED AND SECONDED

No resolution shall be discussed at a meeting until it has been moved and seconded.

(9) AMENDMENTS

Amendments shall be taken in order, and one amendment shall be disposed of before another is moved. If the first amendment is carried it becomes itself the question, whereupon any further amendment may be moved.

(10) SPEAKERS

All speakers shall address the chair. All members shall preserve order and be seated when the chairman rises. No member shall be allowed to speak more than once on any motion until every other member has had opportunity of speaking. He shall then only have opportunity to speak a second time by permission of the chairman.

(11) TIME LIMIT FOR SPEAKERS

The mover and seconder of any motion shall be deemed to have spoken thereon. The mover of a motion shall be allowed ten minutes, seconder and succeeding speakers five minutes each. The time limit of speakers may be extended by vote of members. The mover of any original resolution, but not of any amendment, may reply to the discussion without introducing new matter, and this shall close the discussion.

(12) CHAIRMAN SPEAKING TO A MOTION

The chairman if desirous of speaking to any motion shall request the permission of the meeting to leave the chair for the purpose of so doing.

(13) VOTING ON MOTION

Shall be by show of hands except where the constitution of the party provides for a ballot vote, or when the General Committee shall otherwise decide.

Voting for officers and Executive Committee. The voting shall be by ballot.

(14) EQUALITY OF VOTES

(a) In the event of an equal number of

votes being given on any matter it shall be decided the question be not carried; or

(b) The chairman may give a casting vote in the event of there being an equality of votes on any matter. If the chairman does not wish to give a casting vote the resolution is not carried.

(15) PROCEDURE MOTIONS

Any motion 'to adjourn', 'next business', 'that the vote be taken', 'that chairman leave the chair' shall be moved, seconded and put to the vote without discussion. After such a vote twenty minutes shall elapse before such a motion can again be accepted by the chairman.

ADJOURNMENT

Any member who has not already spoken during the discussion may move the adjournment of the question or of the meeting, but must confine his remarks to that question.

(16) CHAIRMAN'S RULING

The chairman's ruling on any point of order arising from these standing orders shall be final. If any point arises not provided for in these standing orders the chairman shall give an opinion on the point. If his opinion be challenged a vote may be taken to decide the point; or

Any breach of the rules and standing orders may be raised by a member rising to 'a point of order'. The chairman's ruling shall be final unless challenged by at least three persons, whereupon the chairman shall put the ruling to the meeting forthwith.

CHAIRMAN'S DECISION CHALLENGED

The decision of the chairman upon any matter of rules or procedure shall only be challenged by the motion 'that the chairman do leave the chair'.

(17) NOMINATION OF ABSENT DELEGATE

An absent delegate may be nominated for any office at the discretion of the chairman, whose ruling shall have regard to circumstances.

(18) CLOSE OF MEETING

All meetings shall close not later than p.m.

(19) SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Any of these standing orders may be suspended by a two-thirds majority of the delegates present voting in favour of suspension.

The purpose of standing orders is simply to lay down a code for the conduct of meetings therefore their content should be restricted to that purpose.

A MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S JOB

RELYING as we so very largely do on our voluntary officers, it is neither fair nor wise to expect your party secretary to give detailed attention to all membership matters. Hence, the appointment of a membership secretary in every ward and local party is essential.

In this article we shall set out in simple terms the duties of a membership secretary, and shall offer some practical advice on carrying them out.

Our suggestions are based on practical experience. The general plan can be adapted to suit local circumstances, and can function equally well whether voluntary, or commission paid, collectors operate.

It is desirable to appoint as membership secretary a member who is most likely to be able to give continuous service in the post. It is unwise to change this officer each year.

★ ★ ★

Duties come under three main headings:

- (a) Compiling and keeping up-to-date membership records.
- (b) Promoting membership.
- (c) Ensuring the regular collection of membership contributions.

The primary need is a record of members and subscriptions paid. To facilitate easy checking with the collectors' books, this record should be in street order, with the members in a particular street listed in house order. The collector's name or number should be clearly shown.

Bound or loose-leaf analysis books can be obtained from most stationers at a reasonable price, but make sure they have suitable columns to take the information to be recorded:

- (a) two narrow columns to indicate whether man's or woman's card has been issued—this assists speedy checking of cards issued and number of men and women members;
- (b) house number;
- (c) member's name—surname first, initials following (indicate whether Mr., Mrs. or Miss);
- (d) 12 columns for each month's subscriptions;
- (e) totals column at end.

Addition of the monthly totals will provide a cross-check with the totals column at the year end.

If members' names are entered on alternate

THE Membership Secretary is one of the most important officers of a local Labour Party. H. R. Underhill and G. H. Williams explain the duties of this key officer and give practical advice on his job.

lines, it will permit the entering of subsequent members in something like house order. In any case you should allow spare space for such additions in each road.

It is also helpful to have, in addition to the street order register, another index of members in alphabetical order.

This should be kept on loose cards, for it will be a permanent record, and will not require to be re-written each year. It will be a simple matter to add cards for new members, and to extract those of lapsed, resigned or deceased members.

This card index should give the name, address, and date member joined, and details such as: help with socials, display bills, election writing, etc.

The membership application cards supplied by Head Office at £1 per 1,000 could be used for this card index, as, after completion by the member, the card would be ready for insertion in the index without the necessity for further clerical work by the membership secretary.

★ ★ ★

Membership recruitment should be a normal activity of the party. A regular canvass—say only one evening a fortnight—can achieve a substantial increase in membership at a rate with which collecting machinery can comfortably cope.

Only those parties with exceptionally good collecting machinery should contemplate an intensive, widespread campaign over a limited period. There is little point in recruiting hundreds of members in a short period if you cannot collect their subscriptions.

The most successful method for membership recruitment is still the special canvass between elections of Labour supporters shown on the marked register or canvass cards.

In many areas, the membership secretary

will be responsible for planning and carrying through such canvass efforts; in others it will be the responsibility of the secretary, agent or organiser.

Whichever is the case, the membership secretary must be brought into consultation, for any such plans must take account of existing membership in relation to potential; of the available collecting machinery in the area, and similar matters.

Membership should be spread as widely as possible throughout the ward or local party. Often, quite a good membership is found to be concentrated in two or three adjacent streets, while other parts of the area have been untouched.

★ ★ ★

While the reasons for this can be appreciated, it really is important that in less favourable areas there should be at least a small pocket of membership.

As new members are enrolled, their application forms (or cards) should be placed in a special folder and be brought before the next meeting for acceptance.

When applications have been accepted, the membership secretary must:

- (a) enter the details in his street register and alphabetical index;
- (b) notify, to the appropriate collector, details of the new member(s);
- (c) ensure that the ward/local party secretary also has details, so that his address list of members is kept up-to-date.

Arrangements should be made, either by the membership secretary or the constituency office, to send a letter of welcome to each new member. This letter, which, if duplicated, should be signed personally by a party officer, should give some details of the local party's organisation and activities, and might have a space for the insertion of the name and address of the authorised collector.

The collection of subscriptions is the most important aspect of membership organisation. In far too many areas only a small proportion of the annual contributions is actually received. Such an unsatisfactory position is avoided where the membership secretary tackles the job methodically.

There are a few parties where subscription collection is organised centrally on a constituency basis. In the majority of parties, however, collection is handled at ward and local party level, and it is primarily for them that the following suggestions are made.

1. Collection of subscriptions should be supervised by the membership secretary.

2. The membership secretary must ensure

that all members on his records are covered for collection of contributions.

3. Collectors should not be overloaded. It is relatively easier to recruit collectors if they know they will not have to collect from more than—say—20 houses.

Well begun—half done! That old adage is still true. The collectors who have everything ready for them on January 1st are more likely to continue efficiently than those who find that March has arrived before the membership cards have!

By then they will be pessimistic about the possibility of getting in the previous month's subscriptions, and may be loth to make a belated start, so:

4. **Before the end of the year** the membership secretary should let all collectors have—

(a) the appropriate number of men and womens' cards for the next year (he must keep a record of the number supplied to each collector).

(b) a collecting book with the names of members (entered in house order) for whom the collector will be responsible.

(c) a written or duplicated letter to the collector, expressing thanks for previous services, and a reminder of the dates for paying in subsequent amounts collected.

N.B. We repeat—it is imperative that collectors have cards and books in good time to commence collections during the first week of the New Year.

5. Collectors should be encouraged to decide with their members as to whether collections are to be made monthly, quarterly or annually, and, if possible, when is the best regular time to call. Monthly collections have the advantage of providing regular personal contact between the collector and the member. This is important especially as it increases the possibility of arousing active interest in hitherto passive members.

6. If good records are to be kept, collectors must pay in their collections to the membership secretary, and not direct to the treasurer. This should be done monthly for preference, and certainly at not longer than quarterly periods.

The advantages of a monthly handover must be apparent—clerical entries are quickly made, and any failure on the part of a collector is soon known.

7. As a firm check on contribution payments at all levels, many parties successfully use the membership stamps supplied by Head Office.

If these are used, the membership secretary records the value of stamps supplied to

each collector who, in turn, must balance his cash and unused stamps. Members are informed that stamps of the appropriate value must be fixed to their cards each time they pay, and thus the whole transaction appears businesslike.

8. The membership secretary must know how much each member has paid during the period. This can be done by two methods:

(a) sending in the collectors' books with the cash received.

N.B. If this method is used the membership secretary must extract his information and return the books to the collectors quickly, so avoiding delay in further collecting.

(b) using Head Office monthly report pads (price 6d.). The collector enters members' names and contributions. The pad provides carbon copies which the collector retains, and a receipt form.

9. When the membership secretary has received all his collections, he prepares a brief report to hand to the treasurer with the money. The report merely indicates the number of members collected from, and the amount brought in by each collector. The membership secretary should also enter, in his street order register, the amount paid by each member during each month for the period concerned.

10. Regular and personal contact between the membership secretary and the collectors is essential. If some collectors are falling down on the work, he must raise the matter with them and, if necessary, replace them.

11. The membership secretary should be continually on the look-out for members who may be prepared to undertake collecting; the soundest way to build up a good team is through personal contact—circulars or appeals at meetings rarely get adequate results.

12. The membership secretary will note from his records if a member is in arrears with subscriptions. He should raise this with the collector, verbally or by letter. (Where a large membership is involved the membership secretary could have duplicated a number of form letters.)

13. If this brings no response, the membership secretary should contact the member direct, or arrange for another Party Officer to do so. Every possible effort should be made to retain a member before the name is deleted from the records.

14. When a member has to be deleted the membership secretary will notify the ward

secretary in order that his address lists can be amended.

15. Collectors will from time to time report to the membership secretary that a member is moving to another address.

Where the change is within the same ward the transfer is easily arranged—the new collector will be notified and records amended accordingly.

If the removal is elsewhere in the constituency, or to another constituency, a transfer form should be completed and forwarded to the constituency office for attention. (Head Office Transfer Form should be used.)

Each month the membership secretary should report to the Executive Committee giving details of:

(a) membership at end of period;
(b) increase or decrease, giving figures for deaths, resignations, lapses, new members enrolled;

(c) total subscriptions collected.

He should draw special attention to any substantial decreases of membership that may have taken place—the committee may need to take action.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN INCENTIVES

TO increase interest and to reward outstanding effort in the Membership Campaign in the East Midlands the Regional Executive Committee has decided to give a number of awards.

The persons responsible for the four best individual efforts in the recruitment of members for the period up to the 31st December next will be entertained to dinner in the House of Commons by members of the East Midlands group of the Parliamentary Labour Party. All expenses, including overnight accommodation, will be met by the Regional Executive Committee.

Two or three books will be given as additional individual awards and will be autographed by Earl Attlee and the Right Honourable Hugh Gaitskell, M.P.

The Constituency Labour Party gaining the Regional Membership Trophy in 1956 will be awarded two scholarships for regional weekend schools and the expenses of the students appointed by the Constituency Labour Party will be met by the Regional Executive Committee.

Membership Campaign Literature

PRICE LIST

'The Joy of Living' (Youth leaflet) (Membership form—four colour)	..	100 copies, 3s. 6d.; 250, 6s. 6d.; 500, 11s.; 1,000, £1.
'A Woman's Place' (Women's leaflet) (Membership form—four colour)	..	100 copies, 7s. 250, 13s.; 500, £1 2s.; 1,000, £2.
'You Can't Get Away From It' ('Y' Voters' Membership form— four colour)	..	50 copies, 4s. 6d.; 100, 7s. 6d.; 250, 17s. 6d.; 500, £1 12s. 6d.; 1,000, £3.
'A Houseproud Nation' (Membership form)	..	1,000 copies, £2 10s.
'Master or Servant' (Membership form)	..	100 copies, 4s.; 500, 15s.; 1,000 £1 5s.
'The Pay Off'—unemployment (Membership form)	..	1,000 copies, £1 2s. 6d.
'Two Nations or One?'—Equality	..	1,000 copies, £2 10s.
'Welcome to the Labour Party' (Membership form)	..	1,000 copies, £1 5s.
'Family Party' (Membership form—four colour)	..	100 copies, 8s.; 200, 15s.; 300, £1 1s.; 1,000, £3 5s.
'Take It From Here' (Youth Policy Statement) (24-page booklet)	..	1 copy, 9d.; 12, 5s. 9d.; 24, 11s.; 50, £1 1s.; 100, £1 17s. 6d.; 500, £8 5s.; 1,000, £16.
Youth Sections' Handbook	..	1 copy, 9d.; 12, 5s. 9d.; 24, 11s.; 50, £1 1s.; 100, £1 17s. 6d.; 500, £8 5s.; 1,000, £16.
'The Men Who Failed' Vicky cartoon book	..	1 copy, 1s. 3d.; 12, 10s.; 50, £1 15s.; 100, £3; 250, £6 5s.
'Chance'—Town and Country Post No. 36 (two-colour broadsheet)	..	100 copies, 6s. 6d.; 250, 14s.; 500, £1 6s. 6d.; 750, £2; 1,000, £2 10s.
'Aim'—Youth Recruiting (two-colour broadsheet)	..	1,000 copies, 10s.
Membership Application Card	..	1,000 copies, £1.
'Labour Week'—Window Bill	..	1,000 copies, 10s.
'Advance with Labour—Join Now!' Poster	..	Single crown , 1 copy, 1s.
'Labour—the Party of Youth' Poster	..	Single crown , 1 copy, 6d. Double crown , 1 copy, 9d.
Canvass Cards	..	7s. 6d. per 1,000 including 25 covers and clips.
'Welcome to New Residents' postcard	..	100 copies, 7s. 6d.; 250, 17s. 6d.; 500, £1 10s.; 1,000, £2 12s. 6d.

All prices include postage

Please use block letters when ordering

FROM LABOUR PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT

TRANSPORT HOUSE, SMITH SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1